

## **Abstract**

Intervertebral joint prosthesis for an intervertebral space of the cervical spine, which intervertebral space is delimited by the end plates (12, 13) of the adjacent vertebral bodies whose surfaces, in a frontal plane, laterally adjacent to a substantially flat central area (2), have more strongly curved edge zones (4). These edge zones (4) are more strongly mineralized than the central area and are therefore particularly stable. At least one of the prosthesis surfaces (10, 11) intended to bear on a vertebral body surface has a lateral extent reaching into the edge zones (4). The convex curvature of this prosthesis surface (9, 11), in the frontal plane, is at least as great as the corresponding curvature of the surface of the end plates (12, 13). This ensures that the prosthesis is also supported on the particularly stable edge zones, and these edge zones do not have to be subjected to any substantial removal of material.